Imagist Poems: Instructions and Tips

For this assignment you will write two poems based on **imagery**. As you write your poems, let the images work for you to convey the poem's meaning, set a **scene,** or convey **mood**.

Definitions:

Imagery: words that evoke sensory impressions (that is, touch, sight, hearing, taste, and smell)

Scene: a vivid depiction of a specific time and place in which people interact or observe their surroundings

Mood: the emotions stirred up by the images of a poem

1. So much depends upon…
2. Complete this sentence in your own poem that complete this sentence.
3. Think about what matters to you and why. Brainstorm some sense-based words that relate to this subject.
4. Begin your poem with the same words Williams uses in his. Keep in mind that you can break the lines of the poem in whatever ways you think make sense. If you like, you can just use Williams’s format and REPLACE his words with images from his list that correspond to your topic.
5. Stopping and noticing…
6. Imagine: Think of a time when you were taking a trip, travelling someplace new, or even just going to school. Essentially, you are on a mission to go from here to there, but you stop and ponder something you've never noticed before. Close your ideas and imagine the scene in your head.
7. Brainstorm as many images as you can list that are part of the scene you imagine. Try to include something connects to each of your senses (sight, hearing, touch, smell, taste).
8. Make a poem based on the images and the scene you have just thought about (based on "Stopping by Woods..."). Use **images** to convey the meaning of your poem, set the **scene**, or suggest a **mood** for your reader. In other words, don’t tell us what to think and feel; rather, let the specific sensory images do their magic for you.

For both poems, take some time to think about how to break the **lines** of your poem in a way that focuses the reader on the details you choose (one or two images per line?); do not worry about rhyme for now, because this will distract you from working with the images, which is the focus of this assignment.